



THE NAVAJO NATION

Proclamation

RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 6 - 12, 2020 AS NAVAJO NATION SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK

THE NAVAJO NATION recognizes September 6-12, 2020 as “Navajo Nation Suicide Prevention Week” to increase suicide awareness and prevention to help our Navajo people, including our young people, who are struggling in their daily lives. Suicide is a major public health concern and remains one of the leading causes of deaths on the Navajo Nation.

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States and the 7th leading cause of death on the Navajo Nation, claiming over 47,000 lives nationwide; and

WHEREAS, American Indian and Alaska Native communities experience higher rates of suicide compared to all other racial and ethnic groups in the United States, with suicide being the 8th leading cause of death for American Indian and Alaska Natives across all ages; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation encourages public awareness to prevent further losses of life and remains committed to increasing suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention; and

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation supports the efforts of our Divisions, Departments, and Programs as advocates for life by promoting resiliency, culture, traditional values, faith, and providing public education and direct services with the understanding that these efforts will create avenues to reduce the number of suicides; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JONATHAN NEZ, President of the Navajo Nation, and **I, MYRON LIZER**, Vice President of the Navajo Nation, do hereby proclaim September 6 – 12, 2020 as Navajo Nation Suicide Prevention Week in coordination with World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10, 2020.

ORDERED THIS 6th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2020


Jonathan Nez, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION


Myron Lizer, *Vice President*
THE NAVAJO NATION